

## CAMPUS

## F•O•C•U•S

## How are you coping with graduation?



-Katrina Satterwhite

"It's going to be the start of a new beginning."



-Brenda Kimbrell

"Excited, I can't wait."



-LaToya Duffie

"I am able to go to a university, and move on to bigger and better opportunities."



-Joel Lightfoot

"I'm ready for graduation and excited about the future, I know that I will be all right because God will guide my steps."

Tyler Junior  
College News

Co-editors  
Stacie Drinning  
Tera Ives

Page editor  
Amber Allsbrooks

Staff writers  
Bennie Adkins  
Jill Green  
Quiana Harris  
Elena Hunter  
Jennifer Shirley  
Danielle West

News or Advertising  
903-510-2335 or 2299  
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Graduation brings excitement,  
marks important transition

by Tera Ives  
co-editor

College graduation is possibly one of the most exciting times of a student's college career. But, for many at TJC it only marks the beginning of another chapter of college life, transferring to a university.

Many students want to know if they are prepared for university life, they worry that the level of learning and instructors has spoiled them, that university life will be a shock.

Mandi Taylor has attended TJC for the last two years and will be graduating with her associates in teaching and will transfer to the University of Texas at Tyler.

"The instructors here have helped me to prioritize my time

and helped me to learn to study more efficiently," Taylor said.

or give as many chances on assignments as the ones here,"

friends, daily routines and instructors is hard.

"My major concern is balancing all of the hard classes," Taylor said.

"I'm excited to make a change to UT-Tyler," Business Management major Lisa Green

So, does TJC help students with their transferring needs?

"I had to take care of most of my transferring need on my own. When I went to talk to counselors at UT-Tyler I found I was missing a lot of basics and I ended up wasting a lot of time and money," Green said.

"I've had a lot of help by talking to counselors often and I have been told that the majority of my classes will transfer," Taylor said.

*Are they prepared for  
university work? It  
depends on who you ask.*

Other students disagree.

Lisa Green, who will graduate with an associate degree in business management and thinks TJC has prepared her for the transition to a university.

"I don't think instructors at universities will be as lenient

Green said

Attending bigger schools outside of TJC can be intimidating. Many will leave Tyler and find life outside of Smith County.

Others will be venturing across town to UT. Either way leaving the comfort zone of

place in a small Midwestern town.

Cassie Watson, who played Eva Jackson, a 14-year-old crippled girl, gave an outstanding performance. Watson portrayed her role well, revealing

strong acting skills.

Geoffrey Gargottawho played Skelly Manor, the 60-year-old town hermit, was terrific. He stayed in character throughout the entire play and his tone of voice kept the audience alert.

His attire fit the character and connected to his role.

Overall the play was a success because each actor did a great job.

## 'Rimers' cast shines in season's last show

by Danielle West  
staff writer

Theater students presented Lanford Wilson's "The Rimers of Eldrich" last week in Wise Auditorium. The play is based on a murder that takes



# Honor Society inducts 172

by Amber Allsbrooks  
staff writer

Phi Theta Kappa inducted 172 TJC students April 12.

**They are:** Susan Allem, Brandi Auerbach, Joe Baker, Jamie Barr, Jantsen Beasley, Mario Beckles, Simon Beresford, Dixie Bethea, Brian Bishop and Rebecca Bjors.

**Others are:** Elizabeth Bonner, Cherijo Boothe, Sonia Borja, Jennifer Bowen, Kristin Boyd, Keiko Boysen, Jennifer Bradford, Brandy Bridges, Kelly Brown, Daryl Bullinger and Jessica Bush.

**Others are:** Ruth Byrd, Kimberly Campbell, Courtney Charba, Gail Cheavens, William Childs, Christi Crow, Marta Dalrymple, Adrienne Daniels, Greg Danielson and Hillary Daven-

port.

**Others are:** Ashley Dawson, Tiffany Dover, Sarah Ecker, Allison Elliott, Hannah Elmore, Bailey Ephland, Heather Evans, Krystal Faifer, Tiffany Farnham and Cassandra Federline.

**Others are:** Summer Ferguson, Brian Fife, Francine Fodor, Craig Foster, Jarod Fox, James Frampton, Daniel Freed, Geoffrey Gargotta, Vance Garvey and Clint Gay.

**Others are:** Hannah Giles, Heather Gilmore, Kimberly Good, Sarah Good, Sarah Graham, Jessica Greene, Roy Gregory, Timothy Guttman, Justin Hale and Russell Harmon.

**Others are:** China Harris, Lynn Harville, Sarah Haston, James Hawkins, Holly Head, Philip Herzog, Caitlin Hogan,

Patrice Holland, Kelly Horn and Lindsey Howeth.

**Others are:** Nicole Isom, Carley Jensen, Brandi Johnson, Tara Johnson, Vanessa Johnson, Joseph Jones, Megan Karnes, Kristin Keetch, Kalpesh Kika and Dawn Killian.

**Others are:** Carrie Kin-kade, Kristine Kirst, Sandra Kline, Amanda Klinger, Donald Kuperman, Candice Lide, Adrienne Lindsey, Sunny Longino, Samuel Loper and Jody Magee.

**Others are:** Eric Maldonado, Ashley Mallory, Brian Malone, Dawn Mantooth, Amber Margraves, Mindy Mason, Elizabeth McCoy, Monica McCubbin, Shayla McDaniel and Larry McDonald.

**Others are:** Matt Menefee,

Christina Meredith, Brittany Mettlen, Michelle Meyers, Aimee Michael, Mark Mitchell, Jon Mize, Megan Moody, Leonardo Morales and Crystal Morgan.

**Others are:** Melissa Moseley, Gloria Mucker, Michael Muskus, George Mutashobya, Suzanne Nourse, Anne Palmer, Jerry Parham, Michael Parker, Casie Patterson and Jorge Perez.

**Others are:** Rhonda Perry, Seth Phillips, Amanda Pucheu, Stacy Reed, Michele Reeves, Jeff Reiland, John Reynolds, Misty Rohr, Doris Rollins and Shannon Roper.

**Others are:** Cynthia Rosas, Vanessa Saravia, Becky Scott, Kasie Scritchfield, Michael Shepler, Summer Sheppard,

Ashley Simms, Cassandra Smith, Chene Smith, Joanna Smith.

**Others are:** Melissa Smith, Sandi Smith, Todd Smith, Whitney Smith, Jessica Souther, Amanda Sparks, Jason Speights, Kathleen Springer, Lee Squyres and Jamye Standley.

**Others are:** Krystle Stanger, Faith Stiffler, Malissa Sutherland, Zachary Taliaferro, James Thigpen, Billie Thompson, Brian Thompson, Steven Tidwell, Melissa Tilton, Katie Trant and Carmen Trent.

**Others are:** Clinton Turner, Jason Ulsh, Melissa Vogt, Teresa Waggoner, Amber Watkins, Heidi Watson, Andrea Watts, Stephanie Wells, Jessica Wright, Michelle Zick and Mitch Ziegler.



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Photo by: Jillian Green

**SAVING LIVES** — Justin Luscombe, a general studies major from Tyler and Latonya Foster a biology major from Tyler gave blood at the Stewart Regional Blood Drive April 17.

## Campus donors give 48 units

by Jillian Green  
staff writer

Campus donors—students, faculty and staff—donated 48 units of blood at the Blood Drive April 17.

"On average we will see 30 to 35 students. The last one we held here, the day after September 11th, we saw more people. We would love to see that many people again," Do-

nor Recruiter Amy LeBur said. "When there is no urgency we see less of a turn out, but we need blood everyday," she said.

Those who missed the blood drive can donate at Stewart Regional Blood Center, 815 S. Baxter, four blocks north of the campus.

Blood donors must be 18 years old, have a photo ID and weigh at least 110 pounds.

They cannot donate until at least eight weeks after they have given plasma or blood or for a year after they have had a body piercing or tattoo. Donors are advised to eat before they donate.

"They were expecting about 35 pints to be donated. Unfortunately some people had to be turned down if they did not meet the requirements,"

Student Activities Director Scott Nalley said. "But out of 66 people, 48 pints were collected."

Donors got T-shirts decorated with a frog saying, "Give Blood, It's Toadally Cool."

"I was on my way back from class and I saw the Shriner guy and he asked me to donate blood," Priester said, "You should save someone's life whenever possible."

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# Natural supplement saves lives before they begin

by Elena Hunter  
staff writer

For \$25.50 per year, women could save the lives of their unborn children by taking a natural supplement known as folic acid, Health-Kinesiology Instructor Linda Ludovico said. Over-the-counter bottles of folic acid can make the difference between healthy babies and those with spina bifida, a serious birth defect. Folic acid is sold at pharmacies, grocery stores and hospitals all over the United States and other medically-advanced countries.

A survey of stores and hospital pharmacies showed Wal-Mart the least expensive source of the supplement. Simply knowing how much folic acid costs and where to buy it are two minor, but important details in helping women protect their children.

Education is also essential to help young women

learn the vital nutritional benefits of taking the supplement, Ludovico said. It is essential to educate women about the latest research and the importance of sufficient folic acid in their bodies before they become pregnant.

Texas Department of Health has teamed up with TJC Community Project and the Mother's March of Dimes to teach women about spina bifida. Ludovico heads the TJC health project.

She describes spina bifida, a serious birth defect.

"When a neurotube doesn't fully close during development in the uterus, nerves to protrude outside of a baby's body when it is born. Your neurotubes are living nerves in your body which control muscle messages to your brain," she said.

In a healthy person, neurotubes start in the brain, extend down the spine and into the tailbone. But in a person with spina bifida, nerve end-

ings jut out through a hole into their body, like live wires out of their socket, Ludovico explained.

Just as an electrician fixes wires into their proper place, such as a box or socket, a surgeon needs to encase these neurotubes into the spinal cord in a child with spina bifida.

Many people with spina bifida endure multiple surgeries, Ludovico said. Most must take a variety of medications for the rest of their lives, depending on the severity of their condition.

Spina bifida occurs in varying degrees, ranging from a dimple in the back to being confined in a wheelchair or causing miscarriages and stillbirths. This complex disease is caused by a simple deficiency of folic acid in most women's diets, Ludovico explained.

Most foods containing folic acid need to be supplemented with a daily addi-

tional 400 micrograms. Since the discovery of its importance, folic acid has been added to foods such as breakfast cereals, bread and pasta. Folic acid exists naturally in smaller quantities in foods such as oranges, orange juice containing the most at 109 mcg, dried peas, beans and broccoli.

Ludovico stressed that neither fortified nor natural foods containing folic acid supply the required dosage. But taking supplements alone is not a good health habit either, she said.

Nationally, one out of every 1,000 babies is born with birth defects. One of 2,500 is born with spina bifida. These statistics alone demonstrate why the state health department began this project for women in childbearing years, to take folic acid daily.

New research suggests girls should begin taking folic acid at age 11 before many of them start their menstruation

cycles, Ludovico said.

"By the time a woman finds out she is pregnant, it is already too late to cure any birth defects a baby may have," Ludovico said.

This is another reason why folic acid supplements should be included in every woman's diet.

"The first 28 days of a pregnancy are critical for healthy growth and formation of the thin embryonic, ribbon-shaped neurotubes," Ludovico said.

Women who supplement folic acid in their daily diets can continue enjoying more health benefits in their youth and well past menopause.

Folic acid prevents other birth defects, but also helps reduce heart disease and colon and cervical cancers.

Most important to realize about spina bifida and other birth defects is the best cure is prevention. It costs less than \$26 a year, a vital pill, known as folic acid.

## College just another challenge for Brian Olsen

by Elena Hunter  
staff writer

In a world where average people take walking for granted, Brian Olsen rises a taller than anyone else while sitting in his wheelchair. Most walking folks take one step at a time, but Brian Olsen has leaped over hurdles just to be in a college classroom.

The first obstacle he over-

came was living through major surgery when he was only two days old. During his first five years, Olsen went through so many surgeries, he doesn't even bother counting anymore, he said. Most he can't even remember.

Olsen is living proof that a person with spina bifida can lead a productive, healthy life.

Since childhood, Olsen has learned to adapt to a world filled with physical and emotional stumbling blocks. Learning how to negotiate a set of concrete steps is the least of his physical worries. His arms take over much of

the work his legs would do if they were working.

He needs extra time to get in and out of bed, to find and utilize accessible transportation and restrooms. And he must remember to take vital medications daily so his body can function normally.

Emotionally, Olsen, like many other persons with disabilities, tries to find a sense of belonging and acceptance among able-bodied people.

How long he has been in that chair?

Olsen said, "All of my life. After 19 years of being in it, I am just used to it. Being in

a chair doesn't stop me from doing ordinary things anyone else would do."

He says he feels blessed never to have walked at all, rather than losing that ability in an accident. It would be traumatic to have known or remembered at one time "I knew how to walk," he said.

"I do hope for a miracle in the future and if there is one, great. If not, that is okay, too," Olsen said.

"I just don't see my disability as a setback. I try to keep a positive attitude towards my goals and dreams in life," he said.

One of Olsen's yearly goals is to attend a camp near Dallas where he can socialize with other spina bifida peers. Olsen said he always has fun there, and he looks forward to going to Camp John Mark again.

"Although I do enjoy meeting new friends with the same disability as mine, I have just as much fun with my walking friends and I truly appreciate their help and support," he said.

Olsen is moving towards his dream of being a sportscaster. He said he thanks God, his friends and family for their love and for believing in his dreams. His positive outlook in life is strengthened by moving forward with renewed confidence.

Olsen knows that his disability was caused by a deficiency in folic acid, so he wants to help educate others about spina bifida, and prevent future children from getting his disability.

It may be physically too late for Olsen to walk, but when it comes to winning the hard races of life, he is moving toward the finish line.

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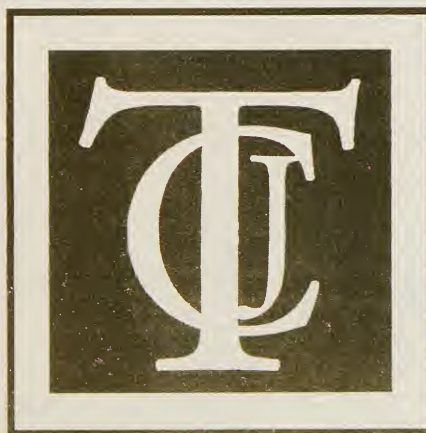
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## Roommates: unforgettable

by Jennifer Shirley  
staff writer

Having a roommate in college is definitely an experience a dorm resident won't forget. A few women who live in Claridge and Bateman halls talked about their experiences.

Bateman Hall Resident Lanisha Fricks from the first floor talks wonders about her roommate. Fricks brags that her first time roommate is a good friend and is very clean.

The only complaint Fricks made is about the dorm in general, especially noise created by others walking with heels on upper floors and laughter carried on at all hours of the night.

Claridge resident Chelsey Lilley, now in her second semester in the dorm, says she and her roommate get along great because they knew each other before they lived together. Lilley only complained about noise other residents make.

Ashley Green who also lives in Claridge Hall also gets along with her roommate. But she is not fond of sharing a bathroom.

Roommates Ashley Crider and Leslie Bardin have spent two semesters together in Claridge after meeting each other at Apache Belles summer camp. Do they get along well? Bardin looked up and yelled,

"No, we hate each other!" The roommates immediately burst into laughter. The only complaint they have is sharing a bathroom with four women.

Few complained about bad roommates, but many said living conditions, especially noise, and sharing a bathroom were hard to take.

One resident talked of mold is growing in the shower because the bathroom door was always shut after hot showers.

Despite the negatives, more positive expressions came from the women who live in campus dorms.



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## Spring Fling to feature Cajun culture, games

by Quiana Harris  
staff writer

The Student Senate's Annual Spring Fling trip to Cajun culture is open to everyone. From 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 3 behind the HPE Center, students can play games and eat.

This is the last social event before final exams, Student Activities Director Scott Nalley said.

Students with a TJC ID can come free. They can bring other students for \$5 each.

"It is just for fun. It's kind of a culture thing," Nalley said. "There will be plenty of food, like 800 to 1,000 pounds of crawfish. We'll also serve corn dogs and sausages on a stick, like a State Fair atmosphere," Nalley said.

Students can play games like tug of war, egg toss, root beer chug, sack races and chubby bunnies.

Those who come can eat, play games, win prizes and then study for exams.



## Recruiters show fun, challenges in Army

Representatives from the Tyler U.S. Army Recruiting Office promoted awareness of military careers on campus last month. This event was made possible by Student Activities Director Scott Nalley and several Army recruiters.

Sergeant Johnathan Miller was in charge of the event set up near Rogers Student Center to promote Army programs and show the challenges for young people who sign up for military duty.

"We like to do an event each year to get the challenge. We want to show everybody we do have fun," Sergeant Clayton Stevens said.

The Recruiters challenged students to climb a multi-level pegged wall with a bungie cord. Sgt. Stevens pointed out one young woman with long fingernails who climbed the wall barefoot. With motivational music blaring in the background, they encouraged everyone to step in and meet the challenge of military service.

Miller said Nalley helped them set up the project.

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## Musicians present final recital

by Quiana Harris  
staff writer

Nine music students presented their spring recital April 12 in Jean Browne Theatre.

Performing were three sopranos, three pianists, two clarinetists and one euphonium player.

Pianist Rebekah Frazier opened the recital with "Two German Dances" by Ludwig van Beethoven.

Sopranos are; Allison Warren who sang "Se tu m'ami" by Alessandro Parisotti, Crystal Power who sang "Nur ver die Sehnsucht kennt" by Franz Schubert and Susan Allem who sang "Exultate, jubilate, K.165 Alleluia" by W.A. Mozart. Piano Instructor Kerry Baham accompanied them.

Instrumental players included:

Clarinetists Amanda Lowe who played "Introduction, Theme and Variations" by Carl Maria von Weber and Tanja Stone who played "Concerto No.

3 in B-flat Major" by Carl Stamitz;

Flutists Julie Rowe who played "Jeux" by Jacques Ibert and Kimberly Engle who played "Andante Pastoral et Scherzettino and

Euphonium player Nakendrick Johnson who played "The Yellow Rose of Texas Variations" by Lewis Buckley. Music Instructor Kerry Baham and Karl Harmdierks accompanied them on the piano.

Students do these performances as part of their course grade. They also make a self evaluation of their performance and discuss it with their instructor.

All performers are students of Baham, Vocal Music Instructor Cora "Jeanie" Oxler, Music Managing Director Cheryl Rodgers, Band Director Ronald Todd and Music Instructor Sheryl Hale.

## Faculty choose 54 for Who's Who status

This years edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges will included 54 TJC students who have been chosen as outstanding campus leaders. They were chosen for their academic achievement, community service, extracurricular activities leadership and potential for continued success.

They are: Dallas Allmon, Leah Beckendorf, Angela Bennett, Rachel Bishop, Joshua Burks, Michael Carney, Matthew Cates, John-Michael Cline, Emilie Copeland, Collin Davis, Leigh Davis, Christopher Diaz, Ricky Dyer, Leah Ford and John Garbutt. 15

Others are: Kristen Gentry, Summer Gilchrist, Jillian Green, Courtney Hawkins, Miranda Hendrix,

Kelly Horn, Mark Humphries, Michelle Johnson, Nidra King, Ricky LaPrade, Jonathan Lesniewski, Lindsay Loftis, Nick Lusk, Matthew Matthern, Taj McFarland and Meredith McWilliams. 15

Others are: John Moore, Joshua Oberheide, Jennifer Oden, Dee Dee Oliver, Aundrea Parker, Ingrid Patrick, Tiffany Penney, Bethany Ray and Thomas Robbins. 9

Also selected are: Vanessa Saylor, Eric Sjerven, Francesca Solari, Kurt Spurgeon, Abigail Smith, Joel Thurman, Brandon Tipps, Michelle Tucker, Logan Tudor, Aleksandar Tunii and Jennifer Turner, Chris West, Angela Williams and Mary Williams. 14

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Workshop to help adults

A workshop is planned to help adult students entering college for the first time or returning after a long absence. The workshop will be 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. May 14 Apache Room 3 in Rogers Student Center.

For more information contact Special Populations Coordinator Jan Adams at 903-510-2395, fax 903-510-2894 or by e-mail at jada@tjc.edu.

### Phone registration opens

Telephone registration for Summer Sessions I and II has begun. Phone lines are open 24 hours a day, but students must be cleared by an adviser before they call to register.

Students who have been advised may sign-up for classes by calling 903-510-2821 or by dialing 1-800-687-5680 during regular operating hours.

Phone Registration for Summer I will end at midnight May 26 and for Summer II at midnight June 30.

Students can see schedule of classes on the TJC website, [www.tjc.edu](http://www.tjc.edu) or use printed schedules in campus offices. Tuition and fees must be paid by May 30 for Summer I and July 1 for Summer II.

Walk-in Registration will take place 8 a.m. through 7 p.m. May 30 for Summer I and July 1 for Summer II in Rogers Student Center.

### Exhibits show White's art

Instructor Derrick White's acrylic paintings are part of two regional exhibits.

The 19th National Juried Art Exhibition at the Warehouse Living Arts Center, 119 W. Sixth Avenue Corsicana runs through May 15. The show is open everyday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

White's works will be part of the 42nd Annual Invitational Exhibit May 18 through June 29 at Longview Museum of Fine Arts.

Both shows are free and open to the public.

White's works are primarily large, energetic and vivid acrylic and water-based mixed media paintings. His art has been shown at the TJC Art Faculty exhibition, Tyler Museum of Art, Home Sweet Home exhibition and auction, Arlington Museum of Art, and Diverse Work NRH Gallery in North Richland Hills.

For information about the Corsicana show, call Leah Blackard, 903-872-541; for Longview exhibit, call Renee Hawkins at 903-753-8103.

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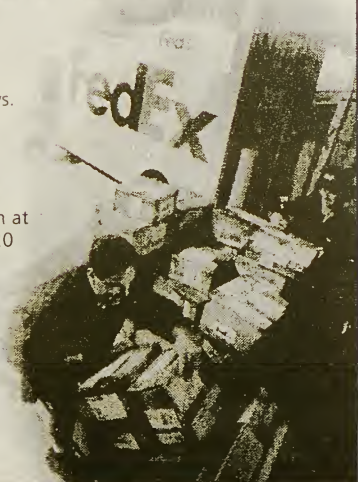
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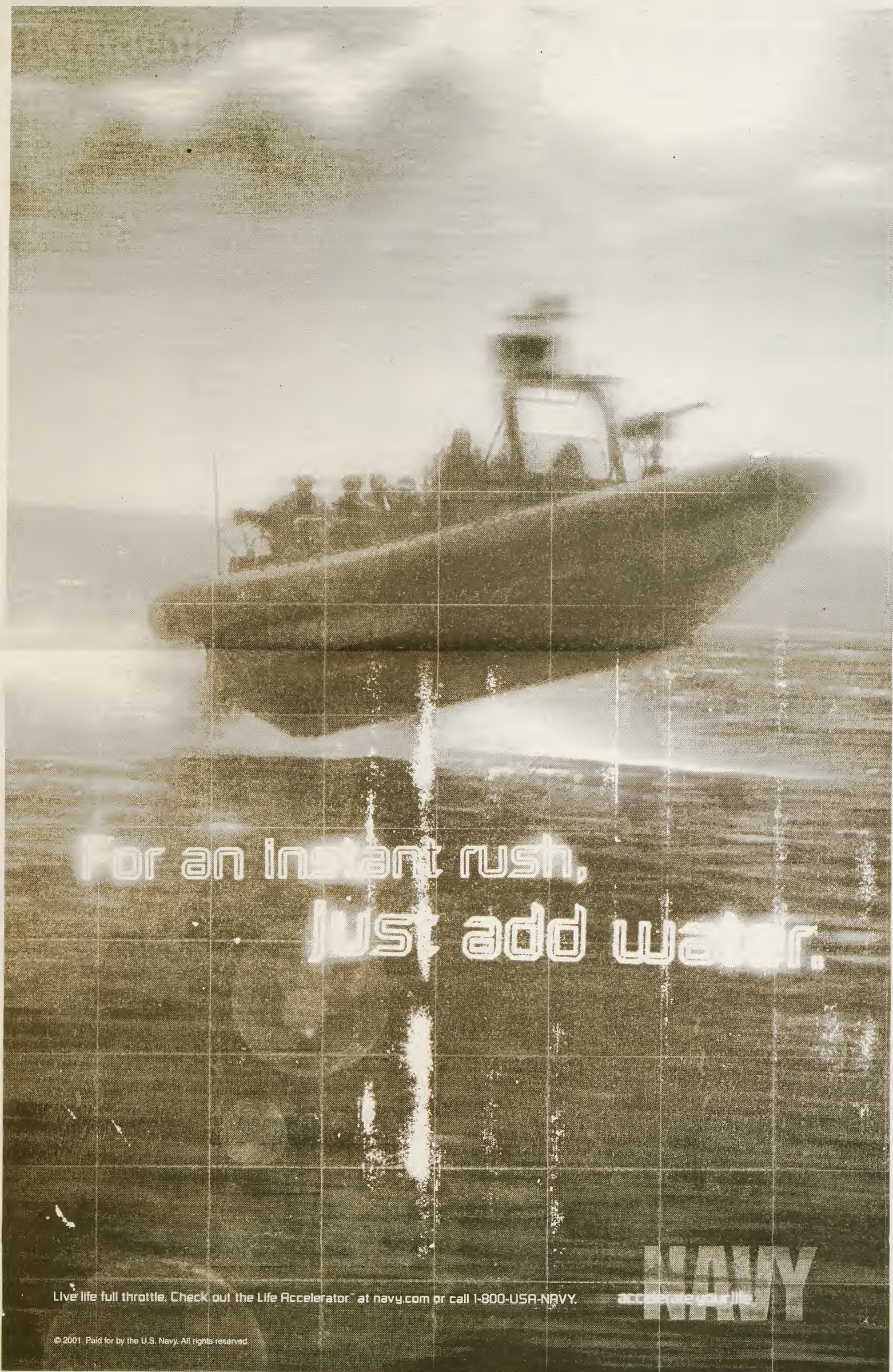
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